

Departmental Highlights—

Household Equipment, Home Management and Child Development departmental news is reviewed by Lila Williamson

PLACEMENT for 1941 graduates in the Household Equipment Department is noteworthy when considered in the light of the production curtailment of equipment. Ninety percent secured positions by August, 81 percent with utilities companies. It would appear that homemakers now more than ever before need help in using and caring for their equipment if it is to last through the present emergency.

Production for national defense takes on new meaning for the department. Many manufacturers are no longer able to consign their equipment for use in research work. Among the first to be cut off were refrigerators, vacuum cleaners and pressure cookers.

Home lighting is of tremendous importance to the health and happiness of a family, according to Dr. Louise J. Peet, head of household equipment. Dr. Peet's new home near the Iowa State campus was planned as a laboratory of efficient lighting and labor-saving equipment to be observed and studied by advanced equipment majors.

When fuel lamps must be used where electric current is not available, the most adequate means of lighting have been determined by recent studies in this department. The department feels that this is of great value to many Iowa homes not supplied with electricity.

Beginning students in equipment are using a new manual compiled by Miss Faith Madden, instructor. It incorporates material submitted by each member of the staff. A large part of it was originally worked out by Mrs. Vivian Brashear, associate professor, one of the pioneers in the teaching of equipment.

The graduate news letter, compiled by Miss Virginia Lincoln, instructor, proves valuable to the equipment staff student work. The news letter this year goes out for the fourth time to 160 graduates. It lists all the graduates, their addresses and what they are doing when this information can be obtained from them. As a friendly addition, excerpts are quoted from many of their letters.

HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT

Miss V. Enid Sater, assistant professor, returned to the department in the fall after a year's leave of absence during which she completed the qualifying work for a doctorate in the Physics Department at Iowa State. Two new members of the household equipment staff are graduate assistant Helen Johnson, B.S., South

Dakota State College, and graduate fellow Christine Newark, B.S., Michigan State College, M.S., Columbia University.

HOME MANAGEMENT

HOME management educators over the country, many of whom have learned to know Dr. Paulena Nickell through her summer teaching at Teachers' College, Columbia University, New York City, have eagerly awaited her new text, "Management in Family Living," which will be off the press for this new year of 1942.

The working group of home management educators, gathered at Manhattan, Kansas, in November, included Dr. Paulena Nickell, head of the Department of Home Management, and three Iowa State graduates who are in charge of home management education at three leading state colleges. They were Florence Davis, '39, in charge at Alabama College, Auburn; Margaret Liston, '37, in charge at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln; and Florence McKinney, '37, head of this work at Kansas State College, Manhattan.

Discussing the needs of American families in the national emergency, this group agreed on the importance of emphasizing in teaching the fundamental values of learning to live and to work harmoniously with others, rather than emphasis on subject matter. A panel, its members representing different types of families, served as the groundwork for the thinking of the group. A homemaker represented the rural family. A minister and a business man discussed family problems they meet in serving others. A bride of a few months represented the newly-formed family. An army officer gave the viewpoint of families on the march. A negro presented the problems of negro families. An architect represented housing for the family.

In 1905 only two home management courses were offered in what was then known as the Department of Domestic Science at Iowa State. One was devoted to the care and administration of the house and the other related to household accounts. In 1913 the general home management course included child development, household equipment, personal and family health, textile economics and food marketing. Today the majority of these are separate departments in themselves.

In 1924 the first two children were secured through a welfare agency to give the senior women direct contact and experience with a child where learned principles of care and training could be practiced. One of these two children is now a student at Iowa State, a freshman in home economics.



Directed by V. Enid Sater, assistant professor, college women test ranges in the household equipment kitchens. Extensive research involves the detailed study of choice and care of equipment, as well as practice in its operation

By the time she gets to be a senior, the home economics major has learned much about the various phases of homemaking. Now she has the opportunity to use for six weeks in the home management house the information she learned, to meet problems in actual homemaking. Studies are under way in the Department of Home Management to determine what, if any, effect the home management experience has upon these students. One study, already completed, was based on the change due to the student's being in the house before taking the class discussion, or vice versa, or when both of these were paralleled. Another study is in progress to determine how previous environmental and family factors enter into the student's change of attitude. Results of the long-time study will be correlated into one whole when the final results are obtained.

Because of the growth of interest in home management on graduate level, a plan was adopted in 1928 whereby training in home management house supervision could be given. To this end graduate assistantships were offered to women who were to serve as resident advisors in the houses.

Elizabeth Martin, B.B., Alabama College, is in her second year as resident advisor in Ellen H. Richards House. New assistants are Phyllis Gough, B.S., University of Minnesota, at Isabel Bevier House; Dorothy M. Greey, B.S. and M.S., Cornell University, at Sloss House; and Gertrude A. Neff, B.A., Montana State College, at Alice Norton House. The fifth house, Gertrude Coburn, has Frances Urban, instructor, as advisor.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT

THE tri-weekly program, "From the Story Book," featuring Edith Sunderlin, assistant professor, has listeners who range in age from 2 to 80. Letters to Miss Sunderlin tell of children learning the days of

the week by keeping in touch with the program, of grandfather tuning in at 11 o'clock so that he can retell the stories to the children and of fathers listening while driving on the road. Nursery, kindergarten and primary school teachers within listening radius are using the program regularly. "Children's Music," a quarter-hour musical period, follows each Story Book program.

Two Iowa State child development seniors are at the Merrill-Palmer School, Detroit, on scholarships. Each quarter two women are chosen to attend this school on the basis of scholarship and interest for further study in family relationships and child development.

Three members of the child development staff attended and participated in the annual meeting of the National Association of Nursery Education at Detroit last fall. Dr. Gertrude Chittenden, assistant professor, summarized the theories presented in group discussions. Miss Helen Hipple, instructor, was a discussant in the nutrition group under the leadership of Icie Macy Hoobler of the Michigan Children's Fund. Miss Edith Sunderlin, assistant professor, served on the membership committee.

Dr. Helen Dawe, who was on the staff as assistant professor until last fall, is now in charge of child development at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Miss Miriam Lowenberg, assistant professor of foods and nutrition and child development, is on leave of absence for a year of study at the University of Iowa. Assistant Professor Gertrude Chittenden is on the staff again after a year's leave during which she received her doctor of philosophy degree at the University of Iowa.

Other new members are graduate assistant Marian Cushing, B.S., University of Nebraska; graduate fellows Charlotte Backman, B.S., Iowa State College, and Marjorie Johnson, B.S., Oklahoma A. & M.